

# June 2024 Outlook During Uncertain Times, Lean into Quality



# Agenda

- » Preliminary Performance
- » Broad Outlook
- » Investment Implications
- » Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator

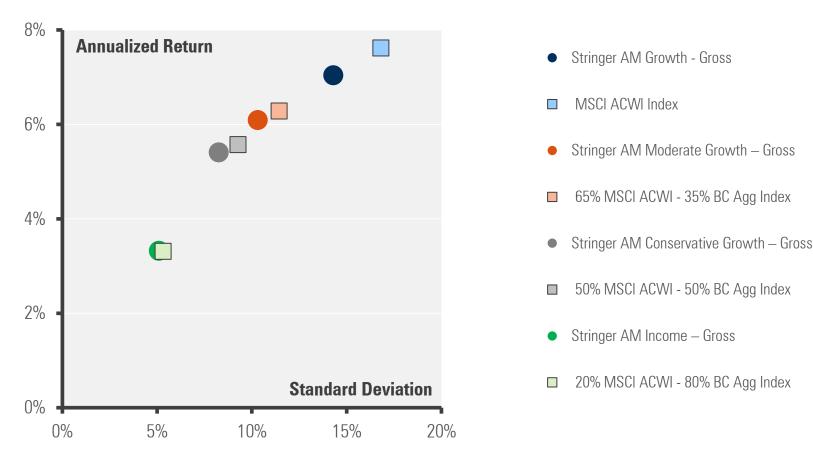


PRELIMINARY MANAGER CO	MPOS	ITE (GR	OSS) VS	S BENCH	IMARK:	MAY 2	2024				
		•	·					Since Inception (9/1/2008)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Growth - Gross	2.67%	8.22%	17.79%	2.39%	8.97%	7.62%	7.00%	7.04%	14.30%	0.84	0.33%
MSCI ACWI Index	1.73%	8.88%	23.56%	5.12%	11.68%	9.75%	8.40%	7.62%	16.80%	1.00	-
Stringer AM Moderate Growth – Gross	3.47%	5.28%	11.23%	1.16%	6.34%	5.64%	5.38%	6.09%	10.31%	0.88	0.39%
65% MSCI ACWI - 35% BC Agg Index	2.44%	5.16%	15.44%	2.33%	7.80%	6.87%	6.13%	6.28%	11.44%	1.00	-
Stringer AM Conservative Growth – Gross	3.77%	4.47%	9.83%	0.42%	4.86%	4.48%	4.43%	5.41%	8.25%	0.86	0.42%
50% MSCI ACWI - 50% BC Agg Index	2.74%	3.58%	12.07%	1.10%	6.04%	5.53%	5.08%	5.57%	9.27%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (7/1/2015)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Income w/ Growth – Gross	3.90%	3.26%	7.06%	-0.13%	2.69%	2.66%	-	2.60%	6.93%	0.89	-1.30%
35% MSCI ACWI - 65% BC Agg Index	3.05%	2.01%	8.77%	-0.14%	4.23%	4.14%	-	4.22%	7.37%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (11/1/2011)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Income – Gross	4.37%	1.96%	5.25%	-0.58%	1.82%	2.15%	2.35%	3.32%	5.10%	0.89	0.23%
20% MSCI ACWI - 80% BC Agg Index	3.35%	0.44%	5.53%	-1.40%	2.37%	2.70%	2.84%	3.31%	5.32%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (9/1/2015)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Tactical Opps - Gross	1.47%	7.49%	9.64%	-2.48%	8.53%	6.30%	-	5.81%	14.31%	0.86	-2.90%
MSCI ACWI Index	1.73%	8.88%	23.56%	5.12%	11.68%	9.75%	-	10.11%	15.34%	1.00	-

Sources: Stringer Asset Management and Morningstar. Performance data quoted represents past performance and is for illustrative purposes only. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.** The total returns presented are gross of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. Returns include the reinvestment of income. The indices represented do not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. To the extent a shareholder pays sales charges, the performance shown would be less. All indices are unmanaged and investors can not invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. Please refer to the important disclosures found at the end of this document.



### RISK/REWARD PLOT1: SINCE INCEPTION TO MAY 2024



Sources: Stringer Asset Management and Morningstar. Performance data quoted represents past performance and is for illustrative purposes only. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.** The total returns presented are gross of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. Returns include the reinvestment of income. The indices represented do not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. To the extent a shareholder pays sales charges, the performance shown would be less. All indices are unmanaged and investors can not invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. Please refer to the important disclosures found at the end of this document.





- √ Preliminary Performance
- » Broad Outlook
- » Investment Implications
- » Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator

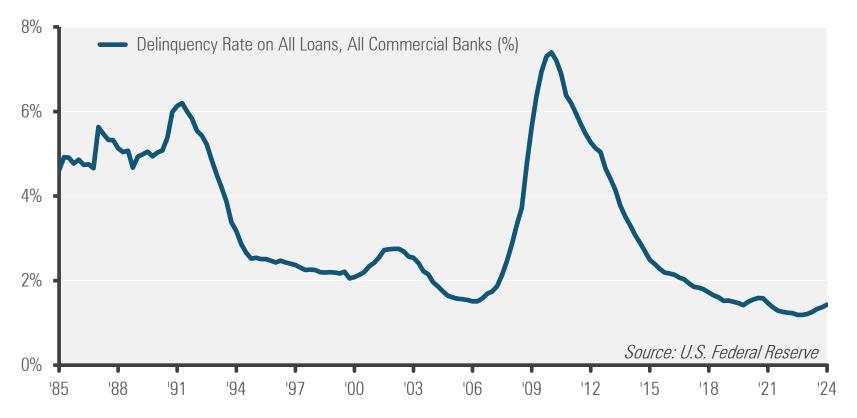


### BROAD OUTLOOK

- » We are in unprecedented economic times as global central banks try to offset the inflationary impacts of record amounts of stimulus enacted to offset the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- » Uncertainty is further increased given the importance of the coming elections not just in the U.S., but globally as well.
- » Despite these uncertainties, the underlying fundamentals of the U.S. private sector, including households and businesses, is on solid footing though not without risks that are worth considering.
- » Given this global uncertainty, we think that a focus on quality equities and high-quality fixed income investments in the belly of the yield curve are set to offer the best risk-adjusted results.
- » We continue to increase our emphasis on these areas as we see substantial return potential for disciplined investors.

## Overall Delinquency Rates Just Off Record Lows

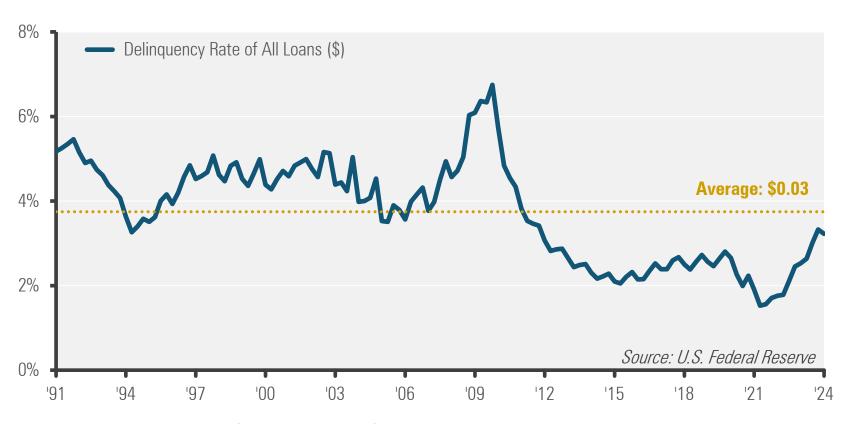




» The delinquency rate on all loans at U.S. commercial banks is roughly 1.5%, far below the norms of recent decades including the strong economic years of the 1980s and 1990s.

# Dollars in Delinquency Remains Low

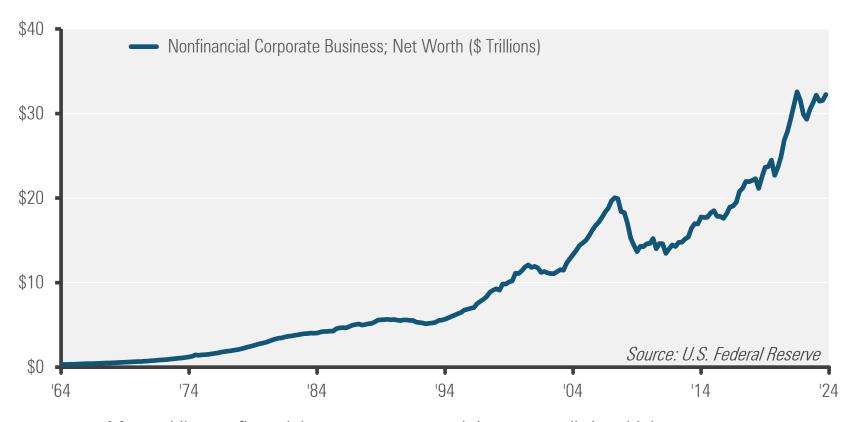




- » Looking deeper, for every dollar of outstanding consumer loans and leases, just over 3% or \$0.03 is delinquent.
- » This rate has increased from its recent all-time low but is still well below the average for the last three decades.

## Nonfinancial Corporate Business Net Worth

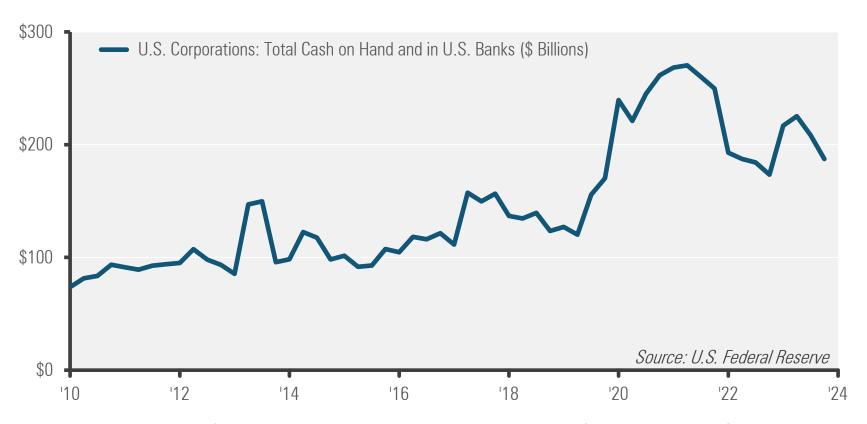




- » Meanwhile, nonfinancial corporate net worth is near an all-time high.
- » In addition, businesses have plenty of cash on hand to fund further investments in plant and equipment as well as research and development.

# Corporations Rich in Cash





- » This store of cash does not include their ability to tap the financial markets for financing, which is the more traditional way that firms fund growth.
- » Continued investment can lead to stronger future economic growth and productivity gains.



11

# Agenda

- √ Preliminary Performance
- √ Broad Outlook
- » Investment Implications
- » Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator



### **INVESTMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- Siven the global uncertainties and the soundness of the U.S. private sector, we think that a focus on quality equities and high-quality fixed income investments in the belly of the yield curve offer the best risk-adjusted potential.
- » By doing so, investors can be shielded from global uncertainties and benefit from the strength of U.S. corporate balance sheets and the potential for further economic growth.
- » We favor businesses with persistent and strong profits as well as limited debt-to-equity, especially the leading businesses in technology, financial services, and healthcare.
- By investing in quality, investors may benefit from this persistent growth, which should translate into earnings growth, while also potentially providing protection should the economic situation deteriorate more than expected.
- » We continue to increase our emphasis on these areas as we see substantial return potential for disciplined investors.



# Agenda

- √ Preliminary Performance
- √ Broad Outlook
- √ Investment Implications
- » Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator



INVESTMENT OUTLOOK SUMMARY   FAVORED CHOICES					
EQUITY	U.S. » momentum, technology*, quality* Global » dividends, emerging markets xChina*, momentum*, quality				
FIXED INCOME	short-duration commercial mortgage-backed securities and <b>Treasuries*</b> , defined-maturity core fixed income, <b>taxable munis*</b>				
ALTERNATIVES	equity option overlay strategies, master limited partnerships (MLPs)				

<sup>\*</sup>areas that we are tactically emphasizing. This material is for informational purpose only. Investments discussed may not be suitable for all investors. No part of the authors' compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific views contained in this report. Information provided is obtained from sources deemed to be reliable; but is not represented as complete, and its accuracy is not guaranteed. The information and opinions given are subject to change at any time, based on market and other conditions, and are not recommendations of or solicitations to buy or sell any security. Opinions and forecasts expressed herein may not actually occur. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for client accounts. The reader should not assume that an investment in the securities identified was or will be profitable.

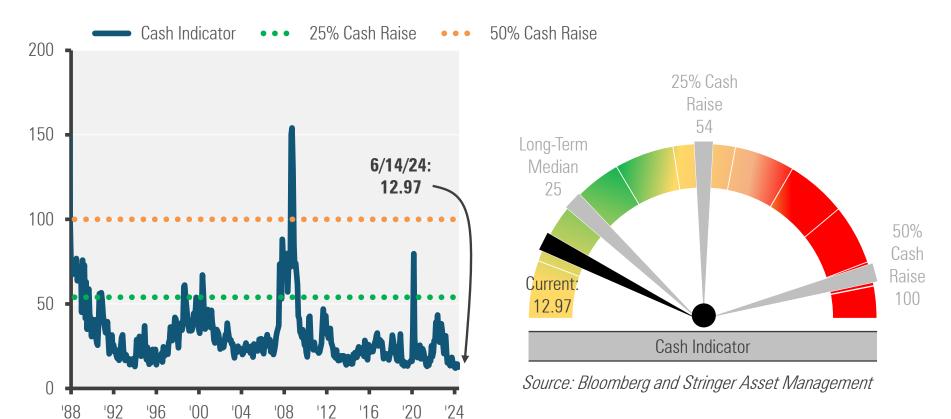


# Agenda

- √ Preliminary Performance
- √ Broad Outlook
- √ Investment Implications
- √ Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator

## The Cash Indicator





- » The Cash Indicator continues to meander near historic lows.
- » We think that the excessive amount of cash in the global financial system is among the contributors to such persistently low market volatility.
- » Given the solid economic backdrop, investors should be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities to purchase high quality assets at discounted prices as volatility reemerges.



## Let Us Be Your 'Easy Button'



For more information:

Jonathan Bernstein (713) 339-0598 | info@stringeram.com







#### **Performance:**

Stringer Asset Management LLC is a registered investment adviser that generally provides services through model portfolios on a sub-advisory business. The firm primarily allocates client's investment management assets among exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") and secondarily among mutual funds. A fully compliant GIPS presentation along with a complete list and description of all composites is available at <a href="https://www.stringeram.com">www.stringeram.com</a> or by calling 901-800-2956. Stringer Asset Management LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®).

Past performance is not indicative of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance data quoted. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The performance of any individual portfolio may not be considered comparable to the Composite performance.

The Growth Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest in equity and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Growth Composite has risk characteristics similar to that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and capitalization risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is the MSCI ACWI Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the benchmark was the MSCI World Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 70% Russell 3000 Index and 30% MSCI ACWI xUS Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

The Moderate Growth Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest the majority of their assets in equity exchange-traded funds but also includes fixed income and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Moderate Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 65% MSCI ACWI Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the blended benchmark was 65% MSCI World Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 45% Russell 3000 Index, 20% MSCI ACWI xUS Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.



### **Performance (continued):**

The Conservative Growth Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Conservative Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 50% MSCI ACWI Index and 50% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the blended benchmark was 50% MSCI World Index and 50% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 35% Russell 3000 Index, 15% MSCI ACWI xUS Index and 50% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

The Income with Growth Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Income with Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 35% MSCI ACWI Index and 65% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific developed market indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite. As of 12/30/16, the Conservative Composite was renamed the Income with Growth Composite.

The Income Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Income Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 20% MSCI ACWI Index and 80% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the benchmark was a blend of 20% MSCI World Index and 80% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. The benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.



#### **Performance (continued):**

The Tactical Opportunities Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest in equity and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Tactical Composite has risk characteristics similar to that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and capitalization risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is the MSCI ACWI Index rebalanced quarterly. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

#### **Index Definitions:**

Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — This Index provides a measure of the U.S. investment grade bond market, which includes investment grade U.S. Government bonds, investment grade corporate bonds, mortgage pass-through securities and asset-backed securities that are publicly offered for sale in the United States. The securities in the Index must have at least 1 year remaining to maturity. In addition, the securities must be denominated in US dollars and must be fixed rate, nonconvertible and taxable.

MSCI ACWI (Net) Index – This Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. The MSCI ACWI Index consists of 23 developed and 23 emerging market country indexes. Net total return includes the reinvestment of dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes, using a tax rate applicable to non-resident institutional investors who do not benefit from double taxation treaties.

S&P 500 Index – This Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The Index is designed to measure performance of a broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.



#### **Statistical Definitions:**

Standard deviation — A statistical measure of volatility, standard deviation is often used as an indicator of the 'risk' associated with a return series. Standard deviation of return measures the average deviations of a return series from its mean. A large standard deviation implies that there have been large swings in the return series of the manager.

Alpha — Alpha is a measure of risk (beta)-adjusted return. Alpha measures the difference between a portfolio's actual returns and what it might be expected to deliver based on its level of risk. In an ideal sense, higher risk should equate to higher return. A positive alpha means the fund has beaten expectations. A negative alpha means that the fund has failed to match performance given its level of risk. If two managers have the same return, but one has a lower beta, that manager would have a higher alpha.

Beta — This represents the systematic risk of a portfolio and measures its sensitivity to a benchmark. A portfolio with a beta of one is considered to be as risky as the benchmark and would therefore provide expected returns equal to those of the market benchmark during both up and down periods. A portfolio with a beta of two would move approximately twice as much as the benchmark.

*Yield* – Portfolio and benchmark yields are calculated using a harmonic weighted average of the net dividends per share during the past 12 months for each holding as of the date identified at their respective target weighting.



### **Principal Risks:**

Allocation risk – The performance of the portfolio relative to its benchmark will depend largely on the decisions to strategic asset allocation and tactical adjustments made to the asset allocation. At times, judgments as to the asset classes in which the portfolio should invest may prove to be wrong, as some asset classes may perform worse than others or the equity markets generally from time to time or for extended periods of time. Market risk - The value of securities in the portfolio may decline due to daily fluctuations in the securities markets, including fluctuation in interest rates, national and international economic conditions and general equity market conditions. Management style risk - To the extent the portfolio focuses on a particular style of stocks, such as growth or value, its performance may at times be better or worse than that of similar portfolios with other focuses or that have a broader investment style. Business and sector risk - From time to time, a particular set of circumstances may affect a particular industry or certain companies within an industry, while having little or no impact on other industries or other companies within the industry. Large company risk - The portfolio may invest in larger, more established companies, which may be unable to respond quickly to new competitive challenges such as changes in consumer tastes or innovative smaller competitors. Also, large companies are sometimes unable to attain the high growth rates of successful, smaller companies, especially during extended periods of economic expansions. Mid-sized company risk - The portfolio may invest in mid-cap companies, which may be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic events than larger, more established companies. In particular, these mid-sized companies may pose additional risks, including liquidity risk, because these companies tend to have limited product lines, markets and financial resources, and may depend upon a relatively small management group. Small company risk - The portfolio may invest in smaller companies, which generally have less experienced management teams, serve smaller markets, and find it more difficult to obtain financing for growth or potential development than larger companies. Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") risk — The portfolio may invest in ETFs or other pooled investment vehicles that invest in REITs. REITs are susceptible to the risks associated with investing in real estate generally, including, among others, declines in the value of real estate, lack of ability to access the credit markets and defaults by borrowers or tenants. Commodities risk - The portfolio may invest in ETFs or other pooled investment vehicles that invest in commodities, such as raw materials or agricultural products. Commodities are tied to future market values and future income and are vulnerable to adverse movements in prices and exchange rates. Additionally, the price of commodities may be affected by geopolitical changes and relations. Credit risk — An issuer of debt securities may not make timely payments of principal and interest. Debt securities risk - Increases in interest rates typically lower the value of debt securities held by the portfolio. Investments in debt securities include credit risk. There is also the risk that a bond issuer may "call," or repay its high yielding bonds before their maturity dates. Debt securities subject to prepayment can offer less potential for gains during a declining interest rate environment and similar or greater potential for loss in a rising interest rate environment. Limited training opportunities for certain debt securities may make it more difficult to sell or buy a security at a favorable price or time. High yield securities risk - Investments in high yield fixed income securities, also known as "junk bonds", involve a greater risk of default and are subject to a substantially higher degree of credit risk or price fluctuations than other types of debt securities. Interest rate risk - Increases in interest rates typically lower the present value of a company's future earnings stream. Accordingly, stock prices will generally decline when investors anticipate or experience rising interest rates. Issuer risk – The value of an individual security or particular type of security can be more volatile and thus perform differently than the market as a whole. Shares of other investment companies and ETFs risk – Investors will indirectly bear fees and expenses charged by the underlying funds in which the portfolio may invest in addition to the portfolio's direct fees and expenses and, as a result, the cost of investing in the portfolio will generally be higher than the cost of investing directly in the underlying fund shares. Investments in ETFs bear the risk that the market price of the ETF's shares may trade at a discount to their net asset value or that an active trading market for an ETF's shares may not develop or be maintained. Non-diversified fund risk – A non-diversified fund is generally subject to the risk that a large loss in an individual issue will cause a greater loss for the fund than it would if the fund was required to hold a larger number of securities or smaller positions. Foreign exposure risk – Foreign markets, particularly emerging markets, can be more volatile than the U.S. market due to increased risks of adverse issuer, political, regulatory, or economic developments. Foreign currency risk – The value of an investment denominated in a foreign currency will decline in dollar terms if that currency weakens against the dollar. Additionally, certain countries may utilize formal or informal currency-exchange controls or "capital controls." Such controls may also affect the value of the portfolio's holdings. U.S. Government and U.S. agency obligations risk - There can be no assurance that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to its agencies or instrumentalities (including government-sponsored enterprises) that issue or guarantee certain securities where it is not obligated to do so.



5050 Poplar Avenue, Suite 1103

Memphis, TN 38157 Phone: (901) 800-2956

Fax: (901) 800-2976

Email: info@stringeram.com